

Docket No.: 245402004000  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Takashi KONDO et al.

Application No.: 10/040,379

Confirmation No.: 5474

Filed: January 9, 2002

Art Unit: 2168

For: IMAGE DATA RETRIEVAL APPARATUS  
AND METHOD CAPABLE OF  
FACILITATING RETRIEVAL OF DESIRED  
IMAGE DATA FROM IMAGE DATABASE

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Examiner: H. Q. Pham

**REQUEST TO WITHDRAW APPLICATION FROM APPEAL PROCESS**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

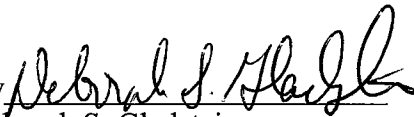
Applicants previously filed a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief. An Examiner's Answer was mailed November 27, 2007.

Applicants are filing an RCE and an Amendment concurrently, and request that

this application be withdrawn from before the Board of Patent Appeals and treated simply as a Request for Continued Examination.

Dated: January 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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